

State of Vermont
Executive Department
A Proclamation

WHEREAS, the French language is spoken by 274 million people in more than 80 countries across five continents; and

WHEREAS, March 20th is the International Day of La Francophonie, celebrating the bond between francophone regions around the world and their shared values of democracy, human rights, cultural diversity, and solidarity; and

WHEREAS, a strong francophone presence has existed for centuries in Vermont, from the first French explorers along the coasts of North America, the strong 19th and 20th century French-Canadian immigrant community, to today's thriving francophone immigrant population from around the world; and

WHEREAS, the name of our great state, Vermont which can be translated as "Green Mountain", and many of our towns and places bear French names, such as Montpelier and Vergennes; and

WHEREAS, Vermont towns, institutions and organizations recognize La Francophonie as a vector for economic development by joining or developing initiatives such as the North American Network of Francophone and Francophile Cities, French Heritage Days and the town of Burlington's "French Friendliness Resolution"; and

WHEREAS, Vermont is home to French speakers who contribute positively daily to the lives and livelihood of all citizens, and values its strong historical, cultural and economic relationship with the francophone world.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Philip B. Scott, Governor, do hereby proclaim March 2018 as

FRANCOPHONIE MONTH

in Vermont.



Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont on this 16th day of March, A.D. 2018

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Phil Scott", written over a horizontal line.

Philip B. Scott
Governor

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Brittney L. Wilson", written over a horizontal line.
Brittney L. Wilson
Secretary of Civil and Military Affairs